

ABSTRACT

A spinal fixation system includes a plurality of anchor screw assemblies, e.g. including anchor screws and clamp assemblies defining rod passages therethrough. A rod is receivable in the rod passages between the anchor screw assemblies, and a spacer is securable on the rod.

5 During use, a first anchor screw is screwed into a first vertebra, and a second anchor screw is screwed into a second vertebra adjacent the first vertebra, and clamp assemblies are mounted to each anchor screw. A rod is secured between the anchor screw assemblies, thereby fixing a relative spacing of the first and second vertebrae. A spacer is crimped onto the exposed portion of the rod between the anchor screw assemblies, the spacer extending between the anchor screw
10 assemblies to prevent the anchor screw assemblies, and, consequently, the first and second vertebrae, from moving towards one another.